(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action contemplated by the Government against the officials responsible theretor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No shortage of coal stock beyond the prescribed permissible limit of 5% of the book stock was found in the company during the year 1990-91.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of the answer given to part (a) of the question.

Manufacturing of Car

4396. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been invited to the news item captioned "Car market seen heading for shakeout" appearing in 'The Economic Times' dated February 20, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to see that there is no glut in the cars manufactured in India ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Production of cars increased from 264,368 in 1994-95 to 348,242 in 1995-96. A similar growth is expected in the current year. There is no immediate prospect of a glut in the market.

(c) and (d) The passenger car industry has been delicensed.

As such the production of cars will be governed by the free play of market forces.

Salaries to NTC Workers

4397. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAIKWAD :
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :
SHRI K. PARASURAMAN :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production capacity of each NTC mill;

(b) the number of NTC mills lying closed/idle at present, State-wise;

(c) the number of NTC mill workers who have not been paid their salaries and dues since last three months, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to clear the arrears of dues of workers and revive these mills ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) A statement-I indicating the installed capacity of each of the mills under NTC is attached.

(b) No mill under NTC is lying closed as per the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act. However, due to acute shortage of working capital, there is cessation of activities in 41 mills under NTC. Two number of such mills State-wise is given in the attached statement-II.

(c) The workers/employees of NTC have received their wages/salaries till the month of December, 1996. Wages and/salaries for the months of Jan. and Feb. have not been paid. Efforts are being made to disburse as early as possible.

(d) The Government approved a revised Turn Around Plan in May, 1995 involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores. Since 8 out of the 9 subsidiaries have been declare sick and are under reference to the BIFR the Turn Around Plan was sent to the bench for consideration. The funds for the Plans were to be met out of the proceeds of sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC mills. It has been indicated in my statement made in the Lok Sabha on 3rd March, 1997 that 80% of the sale proceeds are to come from the lands located in the mills in Mumbai. No positive response has yet been received from the Govt. of Maharashtra. The BIFR also has not approved the revised Turn Around Plan for the eight subsidiaries of NTC on account of the interpretation given by the BIFR on the question of net worth becoming positive. It is not practical to implement the revised Turn Around Plan in the absence of funds and also approval of BIFR. Against this background, the NTC has reviewed the unitwise viability taking into account the concessions agreed to by the Govt. in 1995 and the concept of net worth becoming positive. The report of NTC(H.C.) is presently under consideration of the Government

Meanwhile, Government have been meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in payment of wages, salaries and bonus to the workers/employees of NTC, pending a final decision on the revival and rehabilitation of NTC mills.